

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-8 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 4, and 6-8 were amended, claims 9-16 were added and claims 2, 3, and 5 were cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 4, and 6-16 are at issue.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 112 Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner stated that the phrase "when the result from said decision means is that said identification information is stored in said memory storage means" is not clear. Applicant has amended the claims and respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the Examiner believes that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended the claims to address the Examiner's concerns and respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Katsube, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,188,689). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As amended, claim 1 recites "a terminal device that belongs to the network domain and has an IP address comprising a network prefix and an interface ID, said network prefix being assigned to said network domain and said interface ID being uniquely assigned within said network domain." Claim 1 further recites "a router connected to said network domain having a

memory to store said interface ID paired with information of the next hop address for each terminal device in said network domain; said router being configured to determine, upon receiving data, whether or not an interface ID specified in the data is stored in the memory; and upon determining that said interface ID is stored in the memory, to transfer said data in accordance with the next hop address."

Applicant submits that the prior does not disclose these elements, and in particular, does not disclose "a terminal device that belongs to the network domain and has an IP address comprising a network prefix and an interface ID, said network prefix being assigned to said network domain and said interface ID being uniquely assigned within said network domain" and "a router connected to said network domain having a memory to store said interface ID paired with information of the next hop address for each terminal device in said network domain" Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1, as well as dependent claim 4, is in condition for allowance.

For similar reasons, Applicant submits that claims 6-16 are also in condition for allowance.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully requests early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

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